(b) The main reason for the difference between the two prices is the Government's policy to make available these commodities to the common people, particularly the weaker and vulnerable sections of society at reasonable prices. The variation is also to some extent influenced by the demand for and supply of each commodity.

(c) The market prices of essential commodities have moved up during the last 3 years at varying rates.

(d) The main thrust of the Government policy is to improve the availability of essential commodities by increased production, better and larger coverage by the public distribution system, imports wherever necessary, regulation of exports and enforcement of the various provisions under the Essential Commodities Act and similar legislations. It has been impressed upon State Governments from time to time to take drastic action against those sons selling commodities at prices higher than fixed by the Government.

Cashew Plantation programme under Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2576. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States where cashew plantation programme has been undertaken under centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) whether such schemes have been implemented in Orissa;

(c) if so, what is the total areas in different districts of Orissa which have been covered under cashew plantation programme so far; and

(d) what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) The centrally sponsored scheme on package programme on cashewnut is being implemented in the states of Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Prodesh ,Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Orissa, West Bengal, Tripura and Union Territories of Goa and Pondicherrey.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) An area of 17,144 hectare has been covered under centrally sponsored scheme on cashewanut developent in the districts of Ganjam, Puri, Dhen-Kanal, Cuttach, Keonjhar, Koraput, Balasore and Mayurbhanj in Orissa.

(d) Under the schemes on subsidised area expansion programme and under vegetative propagation programme on area of 14,011 hectare and 3133 hectare respectively have been covered in Orissa.

2577. *[Transferred to the 17th December, 1985].*

Price Support for purchase of Soyabean

2578. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited has finalised arrangements for puchase of soyabean and other Kharif oilseeds for 1985-86 seson;

(b) whether the price support operation has been finalised by NAFED and its constituent state level marketing federations and marketing socieieis;

(c) whether the Central Government have designated NAFED as the nodal agency for a period of 5 years for undertaking price support in kharif oilseeds;

(d) whether the NAFED has undertaken price support perations in soyabean between 1977-78 and 1980-81; and

(e) whether the production of soyabean in the country has incerased from th level of 1.5 lakhs tonnes in 1977-78 to the level of 10 lakhs tonnes at present as a result thereof??

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) In October, 1985, the Government designated NAFED as the nodal agency for price

support operations for oilseeds, namely Groundnut, Soyabean and Sunflower seed for a period of 5 years with effect from 1985-86 Kharif season. NAFED has finalised the arrangement with the State Cooperative Marketing Federation and the Oilseeds Growers Federations. These organisations would act as agents of NAFED and operate through local farmers' cooperatives. To. facilitate the operations, purchase centres have been identified, storage arrangements made and working capital assured. The cooperatives would make purchases at 560 centres in Madhya Pradesh, 150 centres in Uttar Pradesh, 40 centres in Rajasthan and 20 centres each in Gujarat and Maharashtra. Under the Scheme, during the current Kharif season, a total quantity of 81,000 Mts of Soyabean has been purchased from Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan upto 10-12-1985.

(d) Yes, Sir. The purchases made by NAFED during the period, year-wise are as under:—

Year	Quantity Purchased (in MTs)
1977-78	2,054
1978-79	65,917
1979-80	18,291
1980-81	10

(e) The production of Soyabean in the country increased from 1.83 lakh tonnes in 1977-78 to 9.34 lakh tonnes in 1984-85. The estimates of production for 1985-86 have not yet been firmed up. A variety of factors contribute to increasing production. Price support scheme is a motivating measure in this regard,

Agricultural development in backward areas

2579. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have urged the industrial sector to help accelerate agricultural development especially in remote and backward regions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the growth rate in farm production estimated at 6.2 per cent during the Sixth Plan outpaced the growth in industrial output which was only about 5.5 per cent;

(c) whether there are any proposals under Government's consideration for improving the export of agricultural commodities during 1985-86; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The foodgrains production increased from 109.70 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 146.22 million tonnes in 1984-85, recording a growth of 5.92 per cent per annum during the Sixth Plan period. It may, however, be mentioned that as against the actual figures of 109.70 million tonnes in 1979-80, if the assumed figures of 127.86 million tonnes are taken as the base, the growth rate works out to 2.72 per cent. During the same period Index Numbers of Agricultural Production for All Commodities increased from 117.0 in 1979-80 to 153.6 (provisional index) in 1984-85, depicting a growth rate of 5.59 per cent per annum.

In the case of industrial production, the General Index increased from 148.1 in 1979-80 to 195.1 (provisional index) in 1984-85, showing a growth rate of 5.69 per cent annum during the Sixth Plan period.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Several steps have taken to augment exports of agricultural commodities. These include grant of C.C.S. (Cash Compensatory Scheme) and identification and development of new markets. A statutory Authority to promote export of agricultural commodities is being set up by the Ministry of Commerce.

Amendment to the Emblems and Names Act

2580. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering amendments in the Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Act, 1950 prohibiting the use of names of certain national leaders for certain purposes; and

(b) if so, by when the amendments are likely to be made?